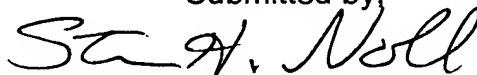


REMARKS

In the Office Action dated June 15, 2006, the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement under 37 C.F.R. §121 between claim 1, directed to a method for treating a protein deficiency, and claims 2-7, directed to a medical device having a analysis unit that analyzes a sample comprising surfactant proteins. The Examiner stated the inventions are distinct from each other, and required election of one of these inventions for immediate examination on the merits. In response, Applicants elect claims 2-7, directed to the medical device. Accordingly, claim 1 has been cancelled, without prejudice to the possibility of continuing prosecution of claim 1 in a divisional application.

Early examination of claims 2-7 on the merits is therefore respectfully requested.

Submitted by,



(Reg. 28,982)

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